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ER 60-6308/2 b

13 NOV 1960

Mr. Charles B. Shuman, President
American Farm Bureau Foundation
2300 Merchandise Mart
Chicago 54, Illinois

Dear Mr. Shuman:

Upon returning to my office from a trip abroad,
your letter of 20 October was brought to my attention.

I have been studying my schedule of commitments
for the month of December to see if I might be able
to join you. Unfortunately, there does not seem to
be any possibility of my getting out to Denver on
13 December much as I would like to do so. I greatly
appreciate your continued interest in having me speak
before your Annual Convention and perhaps at some
later date I can participate in one of your meetings.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles

Allen W. Dulles
Director

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O/DCI [redacted] bak(7 Nov. 60)

Distribution:

Orig. - Addressee
1 - DCI
1 - Col. Grogan
1 - Mr. [redacted]
1 - AAB
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Mr. Dulles:

In response to your request, I attempted to call Mr. Shuman in Chicago but found he was traveling in Ohio and not available. In his absence, I spoke to Mr. Lauderbeck, General Counsel for the American Farm Bureau Federation, who was in charge in Mr. Shuman's absence.

I explained to Mr. Lauderbeck that you had just returned from Europe and that you were mailing Mr. Shuman a letter expressing your regrets that you could not accept his kind invitation to speak in Denver on 13 December.

I said you had asked me to telephone Mr. Shuman so that he would have this information at the earliest possible moment. I explained that you had a very busy schedule piling up for December, particularly with the business of transition from one administration to another which would be making heavy demands on your time, and that you were sorry indeed that you could not undertake to address the Federation at this time.

Mr. Lauderbeck expressed his great disappointment and his thanks for the telephone call.

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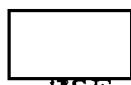
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Mr. Dulles:

Please note that on 1 October (Tab A) you advised Mr. Shuman that you would give him a firm answer the latter part of October to his request that you speak before the annual convention of the American Farm Bureau Federation in Denver on 13 December. He wrote you again on 20 October (Tab B) urging you to accept, to which we replied on 25 October (Tab C) indicating you were out of the country but his letter would be brought to your attention upon your return.

Even though Stan Grogan recommends that you accept, I recommend that you decline since, in my opinion, even though the date is a month after elections it is still too soon for you to make another major address.



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American Farm Bureau Federation

GENERAL OFFICES
2300 MERCHANDISE MART
CHICAGO 54, ILLINOIS
MICHIGAN 2-1280
CABLE ADDRESS: AMFARMBUR

October 20, 1960

The Honorable Allen W. Dulles, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

I was pleased to have your letter of October 1 advising me that you were giving careful consideration to our invitation to speak at the annual convention of the American Farm Bureau Federation in Denver, Colorado, on December 13. We are, of course, interested in completing our program as soon as possible and I am hopeful that it will now be convenient for you to advise me of your acceptance.

I do not believe that I am exaggerating the importance of this meeting when I say that it will present the best opportunity to reach the thought leaders in American agriculture. The American Farm Bureau Federation is vitally concerned with international relations and we most sincerely wish to be in a position to give support to programs that are of vital importance to our Nation. We believe that you are in a position to give our leadership a view of the fundamental issues that may be at stake in the months ahead. I certainly hope that you will be able to accept our invitation.

Very truly yours,

Charles B. Shuman, President

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